



NEWS RELEASE
UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FOREST
PROVO OFFICE
88 WEST 100 NORTH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: September 18, 2009

Contact: Loyal Clark
Office: 801-342-5117

FOREST SERVICE TO IMPLEMENT PRESCRIBED FIRE PROJECT

Spanish Fork, Utah September 18, 2009 - Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest personnel plan to conduct a prescribed fire project between September 21 and November 30, for approximately four to five days, when weather conditions allow implementation. The project will treat approximately 2000 acres in the Rays Valley area north of Highway 6 in Spanish Fork Canyon.

The area will only be burned when certain pre-planned conditions exist. Air temperature, relative humidity, fuel moisture, and wind speed and direction are some of the requirements that must be met before burning begins. Prescribed fires will be ignited when fuel moistures and weather forecasts allow for good smoke dispersal away from population centers. The project will not be implemented during the opening weekends of the general rifle elk and deer hunts.

Qualified fire personnel will use hand crews and helicopters to ignite fires in designated areas to create a mosaic effect. The fire will be monitored at all times by fire personnel. Engines, crews, and aircraft will be stationed at or near the project area to provide support and suppression response, if needed. Roads accessing the project will be temporarily closed to protect firefighters and the public. This closure may impact hunters in the area.

Vegetation to be treated in the designated areas will include primarily aspen, Gambel oak, and spruce. Benefits of the project include improved wildlife habitat and regeneration of vegetation, and reduction of hazardous fuels. Several hundred acres have already been successfully treated during the last three years.

For additional information regarding the project contact the Spanish Fork office at 801-798-3571, or at www.utahfireinfo.gov.

###